

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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**S-E-C-R-E-T**

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COUNTRY **East Germany**

REPORT

SUBJECT **Soviet and East German Military Activities in the Cottbus Area**

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report in English giving the following information on Soviet and East German military activities in the Cottbus area: arrival of Soviet troops by truck from the direction of Lieberose at Maersdorf near Cottbus on 24 July 1958; observation of a Soviet rail transport on 28 July travelling through Cottbus from Berlin going in the direction of Guben; POL transport which arrived at Cottbus from Czechoslovakia on 30 July; arrival of Soviet troops by train on 6 August; arrival of Soviet road transport from the direction of Guben on 12 August; training activities of East German troops at Weisswasser; training of East German troops by Soviet instructors in antiaircraft rocket operation; and a rough sketch of one of the tractor trailer trucks used in the Soviet military transport which arrived in Cottbus on 12 August.

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EAST GERMANY

MILITARY

Soviet and East German activities in COTTBUS area

(late July - mid Aug 58)

1. 24 July

The following Soviet troops arrived [ ] from the direction of  
LIEBEROSE at MARZDORF near COTTBUS:

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about 100 men with SAF insignia  
about 250 men with EGA infantry insignia.

2. 28 July

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COTTBUS Railway Station

A Soviet rail transport carrying 36 [ ] passed through from  
BERLIN in the direction of GUBEN.

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3. 30 July

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a) A POL transport arrived at COTTBUS railway station from Czechoslovakia  
via GORLITZ. The transport consisted of 18 x 2-axled cistern [ ] and  
7 x 3-axled cistern [ ]. At COTTBUS 3 x 2-axled [ ] and 1 x 3-axled  
[ ] were detached and taken to a siding at STRODITZ where they were off-  
loaded into Soviet road bowzers. The transport carried an escort crew  
of armed Soviet troops who had taken over at GORLITZ from a Czech armed  
guard.

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b) The road bowzers with their loads went into the MADLOWER Kaserne.  
The rest of the transport left in the direction of LEIPZIG.

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4. 6 August

A normal goods train coming from the direction of FRANKFURT/Oder brought  
[ ] about 130 Soviet troops. The train with these troops  
went on in the direction of SENFTENBERG.

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5. 12 August

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The following Soviet transport came by road from the direction of GUBEN  
and entered the MADLOWER Kaserne by night:

3 x 3-axled low loaders (see sketch) towed by prime movers  
3 x 3-axled crane [ ]  
3 x covered radar vehicles  
3 x 3-axled road bowzers  
6 [ ] a total of about 200 Soviet troops  
3 x motor cycles with sidecars.

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This column was split into three identical parts which arrived at  
approximately half-hourly intervals.

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6. Training Activities

- a) At mid-August EGA troops were carrying out training at WEISSWASSER with the following equipment:

14 x T-34 tanks  
9 x T-54 tanks  
4 x JS-3s  
3 x JSU 122s with muzzle rings  
7 x JSU 122s with muzzle brakes  
8 x 3-axled W/T trucks

about 150 troops (signals)  
about 350 troops (infantry).

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- b) At the JUTERBOG ranges Soviet instructors are giving training in A/A rocket operation. About 25 officers and 50 NCOs from the EGA are also taking part in this training.

